

Ellenville Scrap Iron and Metal

New York

EPA ID#: NYSFN0204190

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 26

Ulster

Village of Ellenville

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 9/13/2001

Final Date: 10/7/2002

Site Description

The Ellenville Scrap Iron and Metal site (Site) is a 24-acre, inactive scrap iron and metal reclamation facility located in the rural Village of Ellenville, Ulster County, New York. Approximately 10 acres of the 24-acre Site were used for scrap metal operations. The Site is bound to the north by Cape Road and to the south by Good Beer Kill. Historically, the Site consisted of a hydraulic bailing machine used for metal cans and other small parts; scrap metal piles, construction and demolition debris, railroad ties, automobile battery casings pile and brush piles. The Site is divided into upper and lower portions by an embankment (landfill), approximately forty feet in height, composed of finely shredded waste, scrap brick, concrete, wood and other debris. The embankment runs in a crescent along a northwesterly to southeasterly axis which bisects the Site.

Operations at the Site began in 1950. In 1997, the Site was also used as a landfill and used tire dump. From 1987 to 1998, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) inspected the Site on numerous occasions and directed the owner to remediate some of the debris conditions at the Site.

Approximately 4000 people relying on both public and private drinking water supplies live in the area.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and State actions.

Threat and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethene and tetrachloroethene, are present in groundwater above drinking water standards. There is currently the potential for human exposure through inhalation and ingestion of VOCs in contaminated groundwater. However, the area is serviced by public water supply wells operated by the Village of Ellenville that is blended with surface water prior to distribution. The public water supply is routinely tested to insure compliance with Federal drinking water standards.

Soil sampling showed elevated levels of semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), including the polycyclic aromatic compounds hydrocarbons (PAHs) anthracene, fluoranthene and pyrene; some metals, including arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead and nickel were also present above background levels. Off-site soil sampling on some nearby residential properties showed some SVOCs and metals. The Site is partially fenced to discourage trespassing.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: immediate actions and a potential long-term remedial phase, focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: The Village of Ellenville conducted some preliminary debris and a large tire removal at the Site during the preliminary investigation phase.

Entire Site: In 1995, NYSDEC entered into a Consent Order with the property owners in which they agreed to prepare and implement a Preliminary Site Assessment and conduct an Interim Remedial Measure. The property owner installed a monitoring well on the Site. In January 2001, EPA completed a final integrated assessment report for the Site.

In 2005, EPA initiated remedial investigation/feasibility (RI/FS) study activities at the Site and conducted numerous site visits. In Summer of 2006 Final RI/FS Study workplan was completed to determine the absence of or presence of landfill

contamination and characterization. Field work, as described below, has been completed. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in 2010.

Cleanup Progress

The Village of Ellenville implemented an action by removing large piles of waste tires from the Site.

During November and December 2004, EPA performed a Removal Action. At this time, the Site buildings were demolished. Waste oils in aboveground tanks, approximately twenty drums containing various hazardous materials and excavated lead-contaminated residential soils were all disposed of at permitted off-Site facilities.

In Summer and Fall 2005, EPA performed further removal cleanup actions to prepare the Site for RI/FS activities. These actions included the following 1) clearing, grading and stabilizing the Site support area; 2) characterization and disposal of the various debris piles, located throughout the Site property, including tires, battery casings, wood pallets and concrete and construction debris; 3) characterization for recycle and/or sale of the scrap iron and steel, as well as the baling units, located on the site; 4) dismantling and preparing the abandoned dumpsters, cars, trucks and other heavy equipment for recycle and/or sale as scrap; and, 5) testing and disposal at approved, regulated facilities of any localized contaminated soils, associated with the cleanup of the various debris piles and the metal processing equipment.

In Summer of 2006 Final RI/FS Study workplan was completed to determine the absence of or presence of landfill contamination and characterization. The field investigation followed the Triad Approach to site characterization with the development of a conceptual model. Field activities were initiated in 2007. Field activities included a soil gas survey, surface soil sampling, test pitting of the landfill, direct push soil borings, hydropunch, installation of monitoring wells and groundwater, surface water and leachate sampling. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in 2010.

Site Repositories

Ellenville Public Library, 40 Center Street, Village of Ellenville, New York 12428

Telephone: (845) 647-5530

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